

does description of novelties is bound to perish under the weight of its own accretion. It is small comfort to this myrmecologist to realize that 1950 (with the publication of Creighton's "Ants of North America") is probably the first year in a century that the number of unrecognized synonyms did not gain on that of good species and subspecies.

REFERENCES

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NOTES ON NESTING AND HIBERNATION OF POLISTES

(Hymenoptera: Vespidae)

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Students have known for some time that occasionally two females (queens) of *Polistes* will found a nest together. Those recorded were noted to be of the same species. However, on one occasion I have taken a female each of *Polistes fuscatus aurifer* Saussure¹ and *P. apachus* Saussure contributing toward a future colony together. As they were watched for some time there is very little chance of an error. In a letter of January 30, 1951, J. C. Bequaert comments that, "Whether queens of different species would be successful in this is not known." Unfortunately, I collected the wasps and nest at once. At the time, there were thirteen cells with larvae and eggs.

In hibernation, the social Vespidae are rather gregarious. At various times I have taken *P. f. aurifer*, *P. apachus*, *P. hunteri californicus* Bohart, *Vespula pennsylvanica* Saussure, and *Mischocyttarus flavitarsis* Saussure hibernating together. In fact, I have taken three of *aurifer*, seven of *P. h. californicus*, two of *M. flavitarsis* and a few inches away, several of *V. pennsylvanica*.

¹ The wasps were identified by Dr. R. M. Bohart. I am indebted to him and to Dr. J. C. Bequaert for help.